

MINUTES Underhill Conservation Commission January 8, 2018 Underhill Town Hall

<u>Present</u>: Betsy Chapek, Amy Golodetz, Laurie Graham, Peter Hiskes, Pat Lamphere, Karen McKnight, Nancy McRae

Absent: Dan Steinbauer Daphne Tanis

- 1. Welcome and Opening Remarks: Karen welcomed all and reviewed the agenda.
- 2. Public Comment: No person(s) were present for public comment.
- 3. Approval Minutes: Approval of 11/13/17 minutes deferred.
- 4. Association of Vermont Conservation Commissions (AVCC).

<u>Discussion:</u> AVCC operates on membership July 1 – June 30th of each year. UCC has not paid 2017 dues to join the AVCC.

<u>Decision</u>: UCC to defer joining until July 1, 2018 when the new membership year begins.

5. UCC Town Report

Discussion: UCC members reviewed Karen's draft of UCC report. Minor edits made to the text.

Decision: Revise report and resend to UCC members for comments. Forward to Town administrator thereafter. **Lauri** to send photos for submission accompanying the written report.

6. Crane Brook Conservation District Plan

<u>Discussion</u>: Amy presented a template to create the Crane Brook Conservation District Management Plan (CBCDMP). The information incorporated into the Crane Brook Forest assessment can be incorporated into the CBCDMP. Additional information is necessary.

<u>Decision</u>: Prepare the plan to meet deadlines: Draft for next UCC meeting on February 12th.

Section / Person Responsible:

Property description: - Amy from the CBCD forest assessment

Land Use History: Nancy to contract Nate and Irene

<u>Current Land Uses:</u> Used for Biking, hiking, horseback riding, walking, XC skiing, hunting, elementary/middle school field trips, town garage, old landfill (capped)

Ownership restrictions: **Karen** to ask Brian re restrictions on town property

<u>Base Maps</u>: **Peter** to contact Ethan Tapper for maps: Topography/ hydrology, hydrology/topography descriptions; Stands map and descriptions of stands

Next Steps:

Request assistance from Ethan on inventory of trees and invasives.

ALL: Draft respective sections of the plan and be prepared to discuss Management Plan / Goals / Recommendations at the next meeting.

7. Plant Sale

<u>Discussion:</u> Should UCC order trees to sell during the plant sale. Consideration given to butternut and disease resistant chestnut trees. May consider pre-orders.

<u>Decision:</u> **Patrick** to research where they can be purchased and suitability for Underhill environment.

8. Green Up Day

<u>Discussion:</u> Yearly collection totals are good, however there is a concern for the need to build sustainability into the efforts. How to build community enthusiasm in the younger generations into the day. Ideas include: Recruit Green UP Day ambassabors in areas within the town; garner interest through schools, boy scouts, girl scouts

9. Town Meeting Day preparations:

<u>Decisions</u>: **Nancy** and **Betsy** will redo the poster and the hand out cards. Betsy to check with Yuri Behune on invasives program? Discuss/ confirm calendar of events for cards

10. Adjournment: The meeting was adjourned at 7:55 p.m.

Next Meeting: Monday, February 12, 2018, 6:30 p.m., Underhill Town Hall

Respectfully submitted,

Karen McKnight